

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 02549 211427Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PPT-01 SCA-01 SCS-03 /016 W
-----211441Z 044602 /42

R 211408Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2760

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 2549

STADIS////////////////////////////////

FOR NEA/ARN

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CASC (GUINDI, JOSEPH)
SUBJECT: VISIT OF JOSEPH GUINDI TO SYRIA

REF: STATE 55746

1. JOSEPH GUINDI'S BROTHER INFORMED ME APRIL 21 THAT GUINDI EXPERIENCED CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY LEAVING SYRIA BECAUSE HE HAD NOT RENEWED HIS PERMIT TO REMAIN IN SYRIA AFTER EXPIRATION OF ORIGINAL 15-DAY PERIOD. BROTHER STATED GUINDI UNDER IMPRESSION THAT 3-MONTH VALIDITY PERIOD OF ENTRY VISA WAS SUFFICIENT. GUINDI'S BAGGAGE DEPARTED APRIL 18 BUT HE WAS OBLIGED TO REMAIN IN SYRIA UNTIL APRIL 20 TO RENEW PERMIT. MINISTRY OF INTERIOR OFFICIALS INTERROGATED HIM AT LENGTH ABOUT HIS ORIGINAL (ILLEGAL) DEPARTURE FROM SYRIA. BROTHER STATES GUINDI WILL PROBABLY NOT VISIT SYRIA AGAIN.

2. GUINDI DID NOT CONTACT EITHER SUTTER OR ME AFTER HIS ARRIVAL (REFTEL). HE DID STOP BRIEFLY BY OFFICE APRIL 18 ENROUTE TO AIRPORT TO TELL US HE WAS LEAVING.

3. INCIDENT EMPHASIZES IMPORTANCE OF ADVISING AMERICAN
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VISITORS TO SYRIA, PARTICULARLY THOSE WHO LIKE GUINDI ARE FORMER SYRIAN CITIZENS, THAT ENTRY VISA REFERS ONLY TO THE PERIOD DURING WHICH BEARER MAY ENTER SYRIA AND DOES NOT GOVERN LENGTH OF STAY. PERMISSABLE LENGTH OF STAY IS STAMPED IN PASSPORT BY PASSPORT CONTROL OFFICIALS AT PORT OF ENTRY AND IS NORMALLY 15 DAYS FOR HOLDERS OF REGULAR PASSPORTS AND 3 DAYS FOR HOLDERS OF OFFICIAL AND DIPLOMATIC

PASSPORTS. EXTENSIONS ARE NOT DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN
IF APPLIED FOR IN TIMELY MANNER. VISITORS CAN ALSO MAKE
ONE DAY TRIPS TO AMMAN OR BEIRUT AND OBTAIN NEW 15 DAY
PERMIT ON RE-ENTRY.
PELLETREAU

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770435/aaaabdjo.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f4f6b0a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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TAGS: CASC, (GUINDI, JOSEPH)
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